

INTRODUCTION TO LEADERSHIP IN CAP

SQUADRON LEADERSHIP SCHOOL
"FOUNDATION FOR LEADERSHIP" BLOCK
SEMINAR 4.1

SEMINAR OVERVIEW

SCOPE

What is "leadership"? This seminar provides students with a basic introduction to the study of leadership. Students will define leadership as a concept and identify qualities essential to being a leader. This seminar uses clips from Hollywood movies to serve as case studies illustrating leaders in action for the students to analyze. Finally, the seminar concludes with a discussion about the special skills needed when leading in a volunteer environment like CAP.

OBJECTIVES

1. Describe three academic definitions of leadership and define leadership in your own words.
2. Identify at least five qualities of leaders and defend your choices.
3. Defend the principle that one need not be a commander to be a leader.
4. Explain why leadership in a volunteer environment requires leaders to lead persuasively.

DURATION

80 minutes

SEMINAR OUTLINE & MAIN POINTS

- I. Introduction
 - Is Coach Brooks a leader?
 - Lesson Overview
- II. Leadership can be defined in many ways.
 - History shows us leaders' personalities and positions can be diverse.
 - What does leadership mean to you?
 - Some definitions of leadership (see below)
- III. Leaders have special qualities.
 - List 7 traits all leaders should possess; defend your list.
- IV. Everyone can serve as a leader
 - The Right Stuff*
 - Rudy*
- V. Leaders of volunteers must be persuasive, not authoritarian
 - The Gettysburg Address
 - Leading in a volunteer environment
- VI. Summary & Conclusions

DEFINITIONS OF LEADERSHIP

U.S. Air Force, *Air Force Doctrine Document 1-1*.

“Leadership: The art and science of influencing and directing people to accomplish the assigned mission.”

Paul Hershey & Kenneth Blanchard, *Management of Organizational Behavior*.

“Leadership is the process of influencing the activities of an individual or a group in efforts toward goal achievement.”

James MacGregor Burns, *Leadership*.

“The transforming leader recognizes and exploits an existing need or demand of a potential follower. But, beyond that, the transformational leader looks for potential motives in followers, seeks to satisfy higher needs, and engages the fuller person of the follower.”

Peter F. Drucker (attributed)

“Leadership is not magnetic personality—that can just as well be a glib tongue. It is not ‘making friends and influencing people’—that is flattery. Leadership is lifting a person's vision to higher sights, the raising of a person's performance to a higher standard, the building of a personality beyond its normal limitations.”

Dwight D. Eisenhower (attributed)

“Leadership: the art of getting someone else to do something you want done because he wants to do it.”

SPECIAL READING

The Gettysburg Address

Abraham Lincoln, 19 November 1863

“Fourscore and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent a new nation, conceived in liberty and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal. Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation or any nation so conceived and so dedicated can long endure. We are met on a great battlefield of that war. We have come to dedicate a portion of that field as a final resting-place for those who here gave their lives that that nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this. But in a larger sense, we cannot dedicate, we cannot consecrate, we cannot hallow this ground. The brave men, living and dead who struggled here have consecrated it far above our

poor power to add or detract. The world will little note nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here. It is for us the living rather to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced. It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us--that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion--that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain, that this nation under God shall have a new birth of freedom, and that government of the people, by the people, for the people shall not perish from the earth.”